

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH
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**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
FOR WEEK ENDING 23-Dec-00 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK 12/23/00	PREVIOUS WEEK 12/16/00
BRO-FRY	155,650	158,054
LT HENS	1,329	1,894
HVY HENS	1,190	1,214

**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA
WEEKS ENDING 16-DEC-00 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	361	0	361
LAST WEEK	447	11	458
SAME WK YR AGO	427	0	427
TO DATE 2000	22,256	387	22,643
TO DATE 1999	22,840	282	23,122

® Revised

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	2,261	1,202	3,463
LAST WEEK	2,374	1,364	3,738
SAME WK YR AGO	3,021	2,544	5,565
TO DATE 2000	116,534	72,174	188,708
TO DATE 1999	126,320	71,997	198,317

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
WEEK ENDING 16-DEC-00 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	148,530 (A)	1,900	1,202	3,102
AVG WT	5.18	3.61	8.25	5.41
LAST WEEK	151,794	1,927	1,353	3,280
SAME WEEK YR AGO	149,008	2,594	2,544	5,138
AVG WT	5.05	3.40	7.70	5.53
TO-DATE/2000	7,672,039	94,278	71,787	166,065
TO-DATE/1999	7,541,759	103,480	71,715	175,195

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 146.1 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 150.3 million head or 4.2 million head more than or 103 percent of estimated fryers available.

(R) Revised

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 9, 2000**

(A) FAST FOOD/FOOD SERVICE (B) RETAIL (C) DEBONING
4.20 LBS & DOWN 4.21-5.25 LBS 5.26 LBS & UP
-----THOUSANDS-----

HEAD	26,937	25,366	42,883
AVG WEIGHT	3.73	4.71	6.10
% OF TOTAL /1	28%	27%	45%
COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	35,671	27,826	51,030
AVG WEIGHT	3.83	4.70	6.15
% OF TOTAL /1	31%	24%	45%
SAME WEEK, YR AGO /2	27,977	20,230	41,371
AVG WEIGHT	3.80	4.81	6.08
% OF TOTAL /1	31%	23%	46%
TO DATE/1998	1,600,896	1,604,637	1,989,859
TO DATE/1997	1,557,549	1,507,603	1,989,113

/1 MAY NOT TOTAL TO 100% DUE TO ROUNDING

/2 COMPARABLE WEEK

- (A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include Cornish hens.
- (B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.
- (C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 16-DEC-00
(THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG (B) HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
HEAD	2,124	2,798	66	26	5,014
AVG WT	14.91	34.33	25.88	28.28	25.96
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS					
LAST WEEK	2,556	2,881	49	17	5,503
SAME WEEK YR AGO	3,953 (C)		9	44	4,006
AVG WT	26.37 (C)		26.00	26.34	26.37
TO-DATE/2000	245,464 (C)		1,757	1,245	248,466
TO-DATE/1999	243,027 (C)		740	1,857	245,624

(B) Includes 166,000 young banded breeders in 2000 and 55,000 in 1999.

(C) Comparable data not available for last year, this data is comprised of hens and toms.

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH.
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (404) 562-5850.